

REMARKS

The application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated March 24, 2004. Claims 1-29, 39, 40 and 43-52 are pending in this application with claims 1, 10, 19-21, 39 and 40 being in independent form. Claims 1, 10, 19-21 and 39-40 have been amended and claims 46-52 have been added. It is submitted that no new matter has been added and no new issues have been raised by the present Amendment After Final Rejection.

Applicants' undersigned attorney thanks the Examiner for the courtesies extended during the telephone interview conducted on April 25, 2005. During that interview various aspects of the present disclosure were discussed. Although the Examiner was non-committal as to allowance of the present application, the Examiner did agree to consider any proposed changes and to contact Applicants' undersigned attorney by telephone should any issues remain outstanding.

The drawings were objected to because of a formal matter. In response, Applicants submit a Request for Approval to Make Drawing Changes attending to the formalities with the crosshatching pointed out in the Office Action. Approval of these drawing changes is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7-11, 13, 14, 16-22, 24, 25, 27-29, 39, 40, 43, 44 and 45 were rejected under Section 102 (b) as allegedly anticipated by U.S. Patent 3,923,121 to Kruppenbach et al. Claims 3, 12 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. in view of U.S. Patent 3,325,765 to Hart et al. Claims 6, 15 and 26 were rejected under Section 103 (a) as allegedly unpatentable over Kruppenbach et al. in view of U.S. Patent 5,601,448 to Poon. Applicants have carefully considered the

Examiner's comments and the cited art, and respectfully submit independent claims 1, 10, 19-21 and 39-40 are patentable over the cited art, for at least the following reasons.

Independent claim 1 relates to a monitoring cable comprising a connector for connection to a monitoring equipment, a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable, the cable having a first end to which the connector is attached and a distal end and a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable, each of the plurality of electrodes being electrically isolated from each of the other plurality of electrodes, at least one of the plurality of electrodes being positioned between the first end and the distal end.

Kruppenbach et al, as understood by Applicants, relates to a towed land cable. A typical land cable 12 may be 1.5 miles long and be made up of six sections. A typical section may include forty eight geophones which are attached to the main cable by way of leader cables 48. Twelve geophones are electrically interconnected to produce one channel of recorder information (column 3, lines 28-45).

The Office Action suggests that Kruppenbach discloses that the electrodes are electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of wires by means of wires 80, citing col. 4, lines 23-25 and 29-32. The Office Action also notes that geophones producing one channel of information does not preclude each electrode from being connected to a respective wire.

As expressly recited in Kruppenbach, 12 geophones are electrically interconnected to produce one channel of recorder information so that there are 24 groups of 12 geophones spaced at group intervals of approximately 330 feet (col. 3, lines 41-47.)

Accordingly, Applicants find no teaching or suggestion in Kruppenbach of a monitoring cable comprising a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable and a plurality of electrodes each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of individual wires and positioned at various points along the cable, each of the plurality of electrodes being electrically isolated from each of the other plurality of electrodes, as now recited in independent claim 1.

Accordingly, Applicants submit independent claim 1 is patentably distinct from Kruppenbach et al.

Applicants also find no teaching or suggestion in Kruppenbach et al. of a monitoring cable comprising a cable including a plurality of individual wires each extending substantially an entire length of the cable and a plurality of electrode connectors each electrically connected to a respective one of the plurality of wires and positioned at various points along the cable, each of the plurality of electrode connectors being electrically isolated from each of the other of the plurality of electrode connectors, as recited in independent claim 10.

Applicants submit the other independent claims are believed to be patentably distinct from the cited art for one or more similar reasons.

With respect to the Section 103 rejections or any prospective future 103 rejections, Applicants submit Kruppenbach is non-analogous art not at all concerned with the problems faced by the inventors of the present disclosure. For example, the present disclosure is concerned with ECG cables and the problems caused by the individual leads used in earlier devices. These problems included tangling of the leads and misplacement of the leads on the patient.

In contrast Kruppenbach is concerned with land prospecting techniques. Early techniques took a long time and much manipulation to set up and move. Kruppenbach

resolved this problem by providing a towed land cable over a mile in length to be towed behind a tractor (see col. 1).

A person of ordinary skill in the art faced with the problems sort to be overcome by the present disclosure would hardly have been disposed to refer to a reference like Kruppenbach for a solution to those problems. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that Kruppenbach is not an applicable reference for any Section 103 rejections.

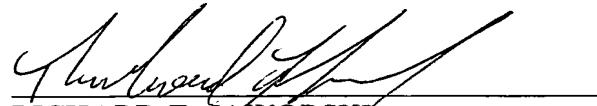
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required in connection with this Amendment and to credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If an additional petition for an extension of time is required to make this response timely, this paper should be considered to be such a petition. The Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite fees, including the RCE and Extension fees to our Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

If a telephone interview could advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to call the undersigned attorney.

Entry of this Amendment and allowance of this application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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